NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING and NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

Program Years 2005-2009 State of Alabama Consolidated Plan and Program Year 2005 Action Plans for CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA

On behalf of the State of Alabama, the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) and the Alabama Housing Finance Authority (AHFA) have developed the Consolidated Plan for Program Years 2005-2009. ADECA has prepared FY2005 Action Plans for the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), the Emergency Shelter Grant Program (ESG), and the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS Program (HOPWA). AHFA has prepared the Action Plan for the Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME). Collectively, these four Plans summarize housing and community development needs in the State and a strategy to meet those needs using federal funding from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Specifically, the plans describe how eligible entities can access funding through these programs to address those needs.

The State of Alabama will conduct a public hearing to discuss the proposed Consolidated Plan for Program Years 2005-2009 and the proposed FY2005 Action Plans for the four programs. The date, time and location of this hearing is listed below:

Date: December 14, 2004

Time: 1:30 PM

Place: Alabama Center for Commerce, 7th Floor Auditorium

401 Adams Avenue, Montgomery, Alabama 36104

Persons with disabilities or special needs who may require special materials, services, or assistance should notify the State no later than December 10, 2004. Please call Mr. Shabbir Olia at 334-242-5468 or write to the address listed above. Free parking will be available in the Alabama Center for Commerce parking deck. It should be accessed through the Hull Street side, and the access code is 949*.

The purpose of the hearing will be to provide general program information and to receive input from interested parties. The State plans to discuss (1) the anticipated amount of funds available for FY2005 (2) the range of activities that may be funded and (3) other administrative details.

The 2005-2009 Consolidated Plan indicates infrastructure needs throughout all of the State's CDBG-eligible counties in the areas of water, sewer, roads, and drainage. Research done for the Plan also indicates that non-housing community development needs tend to be more related to whether an area is incorporated or unincorporated rather than to any geographical distinction. In any case, the poverty of some areas makes it increasingly difficult to address many of these needs.

For the coming year, the following priorities are in effect for the four programs: For the CDBG Program, the housing-related priority is single family, owner-occupied rehabilitation. For the ESG Program, the housing priorities are rehabilitation, renovation or conversion of buildings for emergency homeless shelters, including operation of those shelters. For the HOPWA Program, the housing priority is rental assistance. And for the HOME Program, the housing priority is new construction of affordable rental units across the State. For non-housing needs, the priorities consist of essential community facilities and the promotion of economic development programs.

Draft copies of the 2005-2009 Consolidated Plan including the FY2005 Action Plans may be viewed at www.adeca.alabama.gov or at the ADECA office at 401 Adams Avenue, Room 500, Montgomery, Alabama 36103, beginning December 14, 2004. Attendees and interested parties may offer public comments at the hearing or submit written comments to the State. Written comments should be received in the ADECA office no later than January 14, 2005. Comments should be addressed to Mr. Shabbir Olia, ADECA, P.O. Box 5690, Montgomery, AL 36103-5690, or e-mailed to CDBG@adeca.state.al.us.